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In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicants:	Jerome J. Workman, Jr. et al.	Docket No.:	15708 B
Serial No.:	10/034,021	Group:	
Filed:	December 20, 2001	Examiner:	
For:	ABSORBENT STRUCTURES HAVING LOW MELTING FIBERS		

Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) Before First Office Action or Within Three Months of Filing Date

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 et seq., Applicants, through and by their attorneys, hereby wish to direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the modified PTO 1449 Form.

By inclusion of any given document in this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants in no way admit that such document is effective as prior art against the above-identified application under either 35 U.S.C. 102 or 35 U.S.C. 103.

Additionally, submission of any document is not to be taken as an admission of the materiality of the document to the prosecution of the present application.

The Examiner is requested to review each cited document and personally determine its prior art status.

Applicants recommend that the Examiner conduct an independent search for any and all available material prior art and independently review the results of such search and the documents cited within this Statement.

Applicants request the Examiner, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, to indicate and make of record receipt and review of all of these documents by initialing the appropriate box in the accompanying PTO-1449. Applicants request that the undersigned receive a copy of the initialed PTO-1449.

If the Examiner refuses to consider any or all of the herein submitted materials because it is the Examiner's opinion that this Information Disclosure Statement is not in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner notify the undersigned, in writing, as to the basis of such opinion.

The Examiner's attention is also drawn to copending and coassigned U.S. patent applications Serial Nos. 10/034,049 - Francis P. Abuto et al.; 10/033,860 - Francis P. Abuto et al.; 10/037,385 - T. J. Rymer et al., all filed December 20, 2001. Copies of the applications are enclosed for the Examiner's convenience. The art cited in these applications is included in the attached PTO-1449.

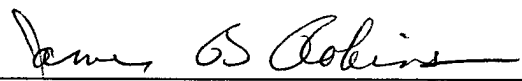
The Examiner's attention is also drawn to copending and coassigned U.S. patent applications Serial Nos. 09/738,552; 09/738,549; and 09/738,397, all filed December 15, 2000. Copies of the applications are enclosed for the Examiner's convenience.

Please charge any prosecutorial fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875.

The undersigned may be reached at: (770) 587-7273.

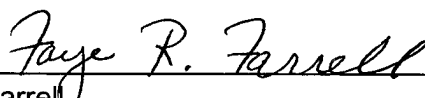
Respectfully submitted,

Jerome J. Workman, Jr. et al.

Rv. 
James B. Robinson
Registration No.: 34,912

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, Faye R. Farrell, hereby certify that on 2/20/02 this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By: 
Faye R. Farrell


List of Patents and Publications for Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant(s): Jerome J. Workman, Jr. et al. Docket 15708 B
 Serial No.: 10/034,021 Group:
 Filed: December 20, 2001 Examiner:
 Title: ABSORBENT STRUCTURES
 HAVING LOW MELTING FIBERS

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Initials		Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	A1	3,802,817	04/09/74	Matsuki et al.	425	66	09/29/72
	A2	3,849,241	11/19/74	Butin et al.	161	169	02/22/72
	A3	4,340,563	07/20/82	Appel et al.	264	518	05/05/80
	A4	4,375,448	03/01/83	Appel et al.	264	518	04/03/81
	A5	4,494,278	01/22/85	Kroyer et al.	19	304	03/09/82
	A6	4,542,199	09/17/85	Kaminsky et al.	526	160	12/08/83
	A7	4,640,810	02/03/87	Laursen et al.	264	518	06/12/84
	A8	4,666,647	05/19/87	Enloe et al.	264	121	12/10/85
	A9	4,761,258	08/02/88	Enloe	264	518	12/10/85
	A10	4,795,668	01/03/89	Krueger et al.	428	174	07/31/87
	A11	4,927,582	05/22/90	Bryson	264	113	03/17/88
	A12	5,057,368	10/15/91	Largman et al.	428	397	12/21/89
	A13	5,064,802	11/12/91	Stevens et al.	502	155	07/03/90
	A14	5,069,970	12/03/91	Largman et al.	428	373	12/18/89
	A15	5,108,820	04/28/92	Kaneko et al.	428	198	04/20/90
	A16	5,108,827	04/28/92	Gessner	428	219	04/28/89
	A17	5,277,976	01/11/94	Hogle et al.	428	397	10/07/91
	A18	5,294,482	03/15/94	Gessner	428	287	10/30/91
	A19	5,334,446	08/02/94	Quantrille et al.	428	284	01/24/92
	A20	5,336,552	08/09/94	Strack et al.	428	224	08/26/92
	A21	5,374,696	12/20/94	Rosen et al.	526	126	01/21/93
	A22	5,382,400	01/17/95	Pike et al.	264	168	08/21/92
	A23	5,393,599	02/28/95	Quantrille et al.	428	284	07/23/93
	A24	5,431,991	07/11/95	Quantrille et al.	428	109	01/22/93
	A25	5,466,410	11/14/95	Hills	264	172.11	05/11/94
	A26	5,536,921	07/16/96	Hedrick et al.	219	693	10/25/95
	A27	5,527,171	06/18/96	Soerensen	425	83.1	03/08/94
	A28	5,540,992	07/30/96	Marcher et al.	428	373	06/30/92
	A29	5,916,203	06/29/99	Brandon et al.	604	367	11/03/97
	A30	5,962,108	10/05/99	Nestegard et al.	428	172	05/02/95
	A31	6,004,422	12/21/99	Janovec et al.	156	276	11/01/96
	A32	6,024,822	02/15/00	Alper et al.	156	273.3	02/09/98
	A33	6,330,735	12/18/01	Hahn et al.	19	296	02/16/01
Foreign Patent Documents							

**List of Patents and Publications for Information Disclosure Statement**

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							Trans.	
Initials		Doc. No.	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Yes	No
	A1	0 649 644	05/31/00	Europe	A61F	13/15		
	A2	0 665 315	02/09/00	Europe	D04H	1/00		
	A3	01/26592	04/19/01	World	A61F	13/15		
	A4	01/26595	04/19/01	World	A61F	13/53		
Other Documents								
Initials		Author, Title, Date, Pages, etc.						
	A1	<u>Polymer Blends and Composites</u> by John A. Manson and Leslie H. Sperling, copyright 1976 by Plenum Press, a division of Plenum Publishing Corporation of New York, ISBN 0-306-30831-2, at pages 273 through 277.						
	A2	Microwave Processing of Materials, Publication NMAB-473, National Academy Press, Washington, DC 1994						
	A3	"Reversible Microwave Bonding", Internet Site, Oak Ridge National Laboratory						
	A4	"Radio-Frequency Sealing for Disposable Medical Products", Internet Site, Medical DeviceLink.com						

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with your next communication.

Examiner:

Date Considered: